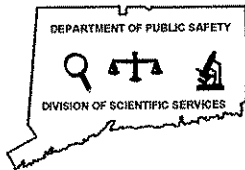


STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

John A. Danaher III
Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henion
Chief of Staff

February 3, 2009

Rep. Stephen Dargan, Co-Chairman
Sen. Andrea Stillman, Co-Chairman
Public Safety and Security Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

SB 761 AN ACT CONCERNING AN ENHANCED 9-1-1 SERVICE DATABASE

The Department of Public Safety supports this bill.

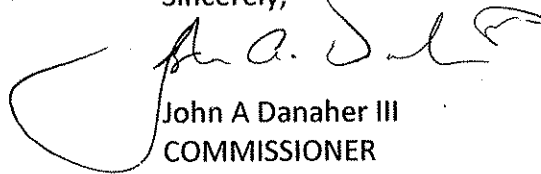
Daily news coverage affirms that we live in a dangerous world. There are numerous public safety emergencies that require that the public be notified of imminent or pending dangers. Information to the public regarding evacuations or other actions to take is critical to the protection of the public. Along with media broadcasts, emergency notification systems, also known as "Reverse 9-1-1", provide public safety answering points with the ability to call residents and deliver short messages regarding emergency events.

This technology is deployed in many Connecticut communities and is expected to be available statewide in the near future. An essential component of any phone based emergency notification system is the list of wire line phone numbers, a database, used to place the calls. While all currently deployed emergency notification systems are using databases that are commercially available, those phone number databases are often deficient in that they are out of date and do not contain unlisted numbers.

Additionally, the providers of locally owned emergency notification systems must pay for those databases on an annual basis. The Enhanced 9-1-1 database, used to process the delivery of 9-1-1 calls in Connecticut, contains unlisted numbers and is, by regulation, updated almost daily by those telephone carriers who provide service to Connecticut. The Enhanced 9-1-1 database is currently protected by state law from use for any other purpose other than the receipt and processing of a 9-1-1 call.

This legislation will allow the use of the data base for emergency notification systems in the event of a life threatening emergency. The database will be provided on a monthly basis, to the state's 9-1-1 public safety answering points at no cost. This will allow those centers to notify as many residents as possible in the event of an emergency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John A. Danaher III", is written over a large, stylized, handwritten letter "C".

John A Danaher III
COMMISSIONER
Department of Public Safety